

within El Yunque that have received wild and scenic designation recommendations, the areas of these rivers are covered under H.R. 3955 through wilderness designation, or are within the existing Baño de Oro Natural Area. Therefore, I have followed recommendations to focus on rivers running outside of the proposed El Toro wilderness Area and outside of existing natural areas.

The three rivers that would be designated under this act were all recommended for inclusion under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System by the revised land and resource management plan for the CNF, approved April 17, 1997. This management plan was the basis for the introduction of this bill, and I ask for your support during its consideration.

The three rivers include the Rio Mameyes, the Rio Icacos, and the Rio de La Mina. All three have outstanding characteristics and make up an integral part of the experience when visiting the forest.

The Rio Mameyes offers outstanding scenic, biological and recreational values to visitors. It flows over large boulders and numerous waterfalls, forming enjoyable pools. Trails run along gorges that descend through the forest. The water quality along the upper segment is optimum, with no interference from human encroachment.

The Rio Mameyes provides important habitat for the Puerto Rican Parrot and Puerto Rican Boa, both endangered species. Furthermore, the endangered Broad-winged and Sharp-shinned Hawks, and the threatened Peregrine Falcon, are also known to use this area. The Mameyes system enjoys the highest natural aquatic diversity and species richness of any forest watershed. The Mameyes remains the only uninterrupted, free flowing river in Puerto Rico.

The Rio de la Mina is judged as eligible based on its outstanding scenic, recreation, biological and historic values. Like the Mameyes, the Rio de La Mina descends over boulders and waterfalls, forming rapids and pools. Trails parallel the river and provide for numerous recreation areas. The most spectacular waterfalls in the forest exist along the Rio de la Mina. These falls, known as La Mina Falls, play an important role in promoting Puerto Rico as a prime vacation destination. The water quality is good within the proposed designation area. The Rio de la Mina also provides habitat for endangered animal and plant species.

The Rio Icacos is judged as eligible based on its outstanding scenic, historic, cultural and ecological values. The Rio Icacos has some of the most varied terrain of any of El Yunque's rivers. Near the headwaters, the gradient is less steep than further downstream where it also descends over boulders and waterfalls. In the upper section, the streambed exhibits a unique sandy bed due to its origin in the upper, flatter section. The palm forest is very striking along the bank, more so than in any other area of the forest. Water quality is high within the proposed designation area. Endangered animal and plant species are present within the proposed area.

With your support, these wild and scenic river designations in El Yunque can become a reality this year. Please let me know when and if you will visit the Caribbean National Forest. Puerto Ricans take great pride in El Yunque, and I assure you it is worth the trip to visit.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may

consume to once again commend the gentleman from Puerto Rico for his hard work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to also commend the gentleman from Puerto Rico.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3954, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the three bills just considered, H.R. 3908, H.R. 2818, and H.R. 3954.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING REGRET AND SYMPATHY FOR FAMILIES OF CANADIAN SOLDIERS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN SOUTHERN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. HOUGHTON. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 412) expressing regret and sympathy for the families of the 4 Canadian soldiers who lost their lives on April 17, 2002, in a friendly-fire incident in southern Afghanistan.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 412

Whereas since the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, the Government and people of Canada have offered their steadfast support to the United States in the international war against terrorism;

Whereas this support is in defense of the values that define and unite the United States and Canada;

Whereas the Government of Canada has also provided significant military support to the international war against terrorism, first deploying troops to Afghanistan in October 2001;

Whereas on January 7, 2002, the Government of Canada announced it would be sending an additional 750 troops to Afghanistan from the 3rd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group to support the coalition against terrorism;

Whereas on April 17, 2002, 4 Canadian soldiers from that battalion were killed and 8 others were wounded in a friendly-fire incident in southern Afghanistan;

Whereas the Canadian soldiers who lost their lives were Sergeant Marc D. Leger of

Lancaster, Ontario, Corporal Ainsworth Dyer of Montreal, Quebec, Private Richard A. Green of Edmonton, Alberta, and Private Nathan Smith of Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia;

Whereas the people of the United States value the friendship and goodwill of the people of Canada; and

Whereas President Bush has offered his sorrow and sympathy to the Government and people of Canada for this tragedy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) praises the performance and heroism of Canadian soldiers;

(2) extends its regret and sympathy to the families of the 4 Canadian soldiers who lost their lives and others who suffered injury on April 17, 2002, in a friendly-fire incident in southern Afghanistan, and to the Government and people of Canada for their loss; and

(3) reaffirms the Nation's appreciation for Canada's strong support and commitment to the war against terrorism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. HOUGHTON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOUGHTON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 412.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. HOUGHTON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to talk a little bit informally, Madam Speaker, about the situation which has affected us all, and I know that the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) will be doing the same thing, and I am delighted to be associated with my friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS).

As we all know, on April 17, four Canadian soldiers were killed and eight Canadian soldiers were wounded by an American bomb that was mistakenly dropped on a Canadian training exercise near Kandahar in Afghanistan. I would like to read the names of the Canadian soldiers who are from the Third Battalion, the Princess Pat's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group.

Before I read those names, I would like to just say that I grew up on stories of the Princess Pat's Regiment. It was a famous regiment. A great older friend of mine was in it in World War I and described some of the great battles that went on. So it is a very, very distinguished group.

The names of the soldiers are Sergeant Marc D. Leger of Lancaster Ontario; Corporal Ainsworth Dyer of Montreal, Quebec; Private Richard A. Green of Edmonton, Alberta; and Private Nathan Smith of Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia.

Now, as many of us know, these soldiers had been in Afghanistan since